



# West Valley City **POLICE**



A Nationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

**Office of Chief Lee W. Russo**

3575 South Market Street, West Valley City, Utah, 84119

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**DATE:** May 31, 2017

**CONTACT:** Roxeanne Vainuku, Public information Officer  
Office: (801) 965-7678  
Mobile: (801) 509-1375  
Roxeanne.vainuku@wvc-ut.gov

At approximately 9:30pm on May 30, 2017, West Valley City Police responded to a shooting near 4700 West Thayn Drive. Witnesses in the area reported hearing an argument occurring outside, then seeing a group of people fighting in the street. At least one neighbor reportedly called out to the group to break up the fight and upon returning to their home, the witness heard gunshots and saw a teenage male lying in the street. Despite lifesaving efforts, the victim died as a result of his injuries. The victim has been identified as 16 year old Fernando Aranda.

The investigation into this shooting has revealed that 3-4 suspects in a mid-2000's white SUV, possibly a Ford Escape, approached the victim as he was walking down the street and that an argument between the victim and the suspects occurred, followed by the shooting. The suspects fled the scene headed eastbound in the vehicle described.

Investigators are conducting interviews and evaluating evidence from the case. At this time, no credible evidence has connected this shooting with another shooting that occurred earlier the same day in West Valley City. Investigators will continue to explore the possibility of any connection, as well as whether these incidents are gang related.

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to contact West Valley City Police at 801-840-4000.

###

